

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Attorney Docket No.: 37872-0004

Applicant(s): Tomihisa NAITO

Confirmation No. 3566

Appl. No.: 09/879,034

Examiner: Christopher S. Kim

Filing Date: June 13, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3752

Title: ATOMIZING APPARATUS AND METHOD

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT****Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents

P O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified Application as set forth in the Amendments below. This Preliminary Amendment is being filed herewith along with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), for which Applicant includes a check in the amount of \$860.00 which includes the RCE filing fee of \$385.00 under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) and the Petition for Extension of time of three months fee of \$475.00 under 37 CFR § 1.17(a)(3). While Applicant believes that no additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 08-1641.

**Amendments to the claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.